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March 10, 2015

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

Montana Environmental Quality Council  
P.O. Box 201704  
Helena, MT 59620-1704  
Ph. 444-3742

**TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS:**

On or before March 31, 2015 the Town of Lodge Grass, MT will request the Montana Department of Commerce (DOC) to release Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds provided under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (PL 93-383) for the following project:

**Lodge Grass Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Improvements and Collection System Improvements Project**

The proposed project will replace the existing wastewater lagoon with a new three-cell aerated lagoon system with continuous discharge that will enable the WWTF to comply with the environmental regulations on Biochemical Oxygen Demand and Total Suspended Solids limits by providing the necessary aeration and hydraulic retention time (HRT) needed. The project also proposes to replace three collection mains, on Bryan and Taft Avenues and Hill Street.

The project area is located adjacent to the Little Bighorn River in Sections 12 and 13 of Township 6S Range 35E, and Section 18 of Township 6S Range 36E of Big Horn County, in the Town of Lodge Grass Montana.

**Finding of No Significant Impact**

It has been determined that such request for release of funds will not constitute an action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and accordingly the above named Town of Lodge Grass has decided not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-190).

The reasons for the decision not to prepare such Statement are as follows:

No impacts to resources have been identified and no additional projects of significance in the area that might be impacted by or develop cumulative impacts in association with the proposed project have been identified. This action is taken on the basis of careful review of the engineering report and the compilation of the environmental review record.

An Environmental Review Record documenting review of all project activities in respect to impacts on the environment has been made by the above-named Town of Lodge Grass. This Environmental Review Record is on file at the town hall and is available for public examination and copying upon request between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm.

No further environmental review of such project is proposed to be conducted prior to the request for release of CDBG project funds.

### Public Comments on Findings

All interested agencies, groups and persons disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments for consideration by the Town of Lodge Grass to the town hall on or before March 27, 2015. All such comments so received will be considered and the Town of Lodge Grass will not request release of funds or take any administrative action on the project prior to the date specified in the preceding sentence.

### Release of Funds

The Town of Lodge Grass will undertake the project described above with CDBG funds provided by DOC under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Lodge Grass is certifying to DOC that Mayor Birdie Lion Shows, in her official capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to environmental reviews, decision-making, and action; and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The legal effect on the certification is that upon its approval, the Town of Lodge Grass may use the CDBG funds and DOC will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

### Objections to State Release of Funds

The Department of Commerce will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following bases:

- (a) that the certification was not in fact executed by the chief executive officer or other officer approved by the Department of Commerce;
- (b) that the applicant's environmental review record for the project indicates omission of a required decision, finding, or step applicable to the project in the environmental review process;
- (c) the grant recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by DOC; or
- (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental design.

Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58) and may be addressed to: Department of Commerce, Community Development Division, 301 S. Park Avenue, P.O. Box 200523, Helena, Montana 59620.

Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by DOC. No objection received after April 15, 2015 will be considered by DOC.

Birdie Lion Shows  
Mayor Birdie Lion Shows

3/17/2015  
Date

PO Box 255  
Lodge Grass MT 59050